



Be Part of the Solution

Wash your car on the grass to naturally filter pollutants, while simultaneously watering the grass. Also, use a nozzle on your hose or a bucket when washing your car or boat to reduce the amount of runoff. Businesses and professional car washing companies must drain their soapy water to the sanitary sewer.

Minimize your property's runoff by reducing the amount of paved surfaces.

Use porous pavers, pea gravel, oyster shells, and mulch—where appropriate—for driveways, walkways, and patios. Also, divert downspouts from paved surfaces onto grass.

Don't use yard waste, concrete, or other debris as fill material. Adding fill may impact water quality and drainage, as well as pose health and safety risks. For these reasons, a permit (no fee) is needed before filling. Call 823-4000.

Participate in local cleanups or organize your own through Keep Norfolk Beautiful. KNB sponsors many events each year, like "Clean the Bay" Day. You can also adopt your own spot or street for cleanups. Call 441-1347.

Only Rain Down The Storm Drain!

Important Phone Numbers

Storm water services, information, speakers

Norfolk Environmental
Storm Water Management 823-4000

Storm water billing

Public Works Financial Management 664-4633

Illegal dumping, spills

Hazmat Team, Environmental Crimes
Task Force 441-5610

Litter prevention, recycling

Norfolk Environmental Commission 441-1347

Storm Water Works For You And The Environment!

The division works to reduce and prevent flooding and storm water pollution. We apply civil engineering and environmental science methods to keep Norfolk's homes and businesses safe, and to keep local waterways clean.

- ◆ Street sweeping
- ◆ System cleaning and maintenance
- ◆ Illegal dump site cleaning
- ◆ Maintenance and upgrades to storm water drains, pipes, and pump stations
- ◆ Inspection of storm water facilities
- ◆ Environmental code enforcement
- ◆ Environmental education programs
- ◆ Drainage studies

Division of Environmental Storm Water Management
2233 McKann Ave., Norfolk, VA 23509
757-823-4000
www.norfolk.gov/publicworks/stormwater



Pollution Solutions...

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About 3,600 species of animals and plants make their home in the Chesapeake Bay, the country's largest estuary. A far greater population of humans (about 16 million) inhabits the 64,000 sq. miles of the Chesapeake Bay watershed—the area where rain water drains into the Bay.



On average, **Norfolk residents live within a quarter-mile of a river or stream that drains to the Bay**, and our actions directly impact water quality. When it rains or snows, water runoff picks up and carries a wide variety of pollutants into our storm water system. The pollutants then flow into our local waterways — and out to the Bay.



Stash your Trash

Storm drains and roadside ditches are not trash cans. The water they carry drains directly to our waterways without being filtered or treated, so they need to be free of debris and litter.

Put trash in a trash can or recycling bin with a lid. Litter and debris in the system not only pollute, they also clog drains and pipes, causing flooding.



Keep leaves, grass clippings and other yard waste away from streets, ditches, storm drains and waterways. Yard waste clogs the storm water system, and the nutrients it carries are harmful to aquatic life.



Instead of throwing yard waste in the trash, try composting and mulching. If you must dispose of it, separate it from your regular trash by putting it in clear plastic bags for collection on your normal trash day. Norfolk mulches lawn debris collected in clear bags only.

Properly dispose of hazardous waste, such as motor oil, antifreeze, fertilizer, pesticides, paint, and cleaners: Use Norfolk's Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility. Call 441-5813 for operational hours and directions.

Report illegal dumping into storm drains, waterways or ditches. Call 441-5610 24 hours a day.



Use your Garden Tools



Plant trees, shrubs and other vegetation, and

reseed bare soil to prevent soil erosion.

When soil runs off into our waterways, the sediment buries spawning areas and blocks sun from the plants that need it.

Obey posted "No Parking" signs and remove all obstacles from street sweepers' path along the curb. If you live on a street with curbs and gutters, you benefit from Norfolk's monthly sweeping program. For your neighborhood's schedule, call 823-4000.

Fertilize in the fall and only if needed.

Do a soil test to determine if your lawn needs fertilizer. It may not! To prevent contaminated runoff, never fertilize when rain is forecasted. Call the Virginia Cooperative Extension at 683-2816 for additional yard care tips.



If a ditch borders your home or business, it's your responsibility to keep it clean.

This ditch acts as a storm water conduit and water should flow steadily through it and off of your property.

Before you apply a pesticide to your yard, check to see if it's necessary. The Virginia Cooperative Extension offers advice on pest problems (683-2816).

Make the Storm Water Connection

